

REMARKS

Claims 21, 23, 27, 28, 32, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,272,521 to Jablonski et al. Claims 22, 24, 25, 29, 30, 33, 34, and 37 are rejected as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,272,521 to Jablonski et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,615,400 to Cowsar et al.

Claims 26, 31, and 35 are objected to as being allowable while depending from a rejected claim.

Applicant has amended independent claims 21, 27, and 32 to include the limitations previously recited in claims 26, 31, and 35 (which are now cancelled). Accordingly, claims 21, 27, and 32 are patentable. Claims 22-25, 28-30, 33-34, 36, and 37 respectively depend from base claims 21, 27, and 32 and, hence, inherit all limitations of their base claim. Therefore, the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

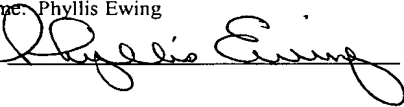
Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance. Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge Deposit Account No. 08-2025, under Order No. 10003696-1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV482738198US in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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